Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee (SSTMD AC) Meeting Summary January 8, 2009

Item 1,2,3 – Introductions, Review of November Minutes, Chair's Comments: Members and guests introduced themselves, and Chairman James Polk thanked Charles Segerman for chairing December's meeting. Minutes for the December meeting were not yet completed, so no minutes were approved.

Sgt. Tom Harmon updated the group on police activities. The Department is currently fully staffed. **Sgt. Harmon** distributed a packet to the group containing traffic statistics and pedestrian-related issues. He also discussed some of the issues that the Department is concerned with for Inauguration Day, and he mentioned that many meters will be bagged that day to keep parked cars off of some of the main highways. There will be police presence in the Metro stations within the County.

Item 4 – Guest Q&A – Silver Spring Parking Lot District: Parking Operations Manager **Richard Siebert** announced that DOT finalized a general development agreement with a group to redevelop Public Parking Lot 3 in Fenton Street Village. It is currently going through the site plan, but it will be a mixed use facility, with some residential, some office space, some retail, and a large public green space where the parking lot currently is.

The plan is to build approximately 300 private spaces to support the office building and residential demands, and the 150 spaces currently in the surface lot will be replaced in a fairly small below grade 2 level public garage. Most of these spaces will probably be short-term parking to support the retail establishments, while the private parking will handle long term needs.

The garage at Colesville and Spring Street will be undergoing a major renovation and will be closed for approximately 18 months. Construction is expected to start around the beginning of July. The garage has a large capacity but also currently has a lot of empty spaces. Additionally, there is another garage at Spring Street and Cameron that also has a lot of empty spaces.

Mr. Siebert stated that funding in the PLD is better now than in years past. There has been \$18 million in revenue and \$11 million in expenditures in FY09. This is due to recent rate increases, overall higher vitality in the area and more usage of the parking lots. In addition, since there are some empty spaces now, there is no need to build more facilities at this time. This is in contrast this to an area like Wheaton, which has no money and also relatively full capacity; by comparison Silver Spring is in a stronger fiscal position. There is approximately 65 percent parking utilization county wide.

Mr. Siebert also discussed different parking payment options, including a new cell phone based payment system, and prepaid monthly payment systems, among others. **Mr. Siebert** believes that with better per usage or per space payment systems, monthly prepayments can ultimately fall by the wayside.

Item 5 – FY 2010 Budget Recommendations: Mr. Polk pointed out Attachment 5, which contain the following drafted 2010 Budget Priorities, in number priority:

- 1. Van Go
- 2. Financial Incentives for TMD Employers
- 3. Pedestrian Safety and Bicycling Initiatives
- 4. Transit Center and Interim Operating Site
- 5. Parking Operations
- 6. Traffic Operations

Ms. Brecher expressed her concern about approaching the County Executive in the same manner as in years past given the current tight budget outlook, especially regarding increased Ride On and Van Go Service.

Transit Services is already anticipating tremendous cuts in service, and there is very little chance that VanGo, for example, will see an increase in its budget or service hours. The Committee agreed that while these requests remain quite important, changing the verbiage in the descriptions can be helpful. **Ms. Brecher** also reminded the committee that the Super FareShare program as a whole is in jeopardy, as it was last year.

Mr. Polk would like everyone to review what we currently have, and if anything gets changed, revisions will be sent out.

Mr. Polk and **Mr. Segerman** will be unable to attend the meeting with the County Executive due to prior commitments. **Andrew Wexler** agreed to represent the Committee at the February 3rd meeting and present the budget priorities.

Item 6 – Updates: Jim Carlson announced DOT updates. The following letters sent to all CBD employers:

- Metrochek Voucher exchange. The letter included a Fact Sheet and Metrochek exchange form.
- Inauguration Day commuting advice. The letter included a Teleworking Fact Sheet and encouraged employers to try commuting alternatives on January 20th.
- Gridlock Alert! Commuter Services web page information for the Jan. 20th Inauguration.

Terrie O'Steen said that there are no new Traffic Mitigation Plans.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 AM. Next meeting date: Feb. 12, 2009

Silver Spring Transportation Management District Advisory Committee (SSTMD AC) Attendance Sheet December 11, 2009

Voting Members (12)			
Name	Affiliation	Present	Absent
Chamber Members (3)			
Samantha Mazo	Linowes and Blocher LLP	X	
James S. Polk, Chairman	Technology Service Corporation	X	
Tom Collins	Atlantech Online	X	
Citizens Advisory Board Members (3)			
Edward Furgol	Kemp Mill, Four Corners, East SS	X	
Charles Segerman, Vice Chairman	North & West Sector Plan Area	X	
Andy Wexler	CBD Resident	X	
TMD Employers less than 50 employees (3)			
Julian Leidman (pending replacement)	Small Business Representative		X
Suvita Melehy	Melehy & Associates		X
Cathy Wilde	Solid Waste Assoc of North America	X	
TMD Employers with 50 or more employees (3)			
G. Michael Price	Discovery Communications	X	
Robin Goudy	Social & Scientific Systems		X
Vacant			
Non-Voting Members (4)			
Sandra Brecher, DOT Transit Services	DOT Director or Designee	X	
Chuck Kines	M-NCPPC		X
Sergeant Thomas Harmon	Montgomery County Police	X	
Staff			
Terrie O'Steen	DOT, Commuter Services	X	
David Kantor	DOT, Commuter Services		X
Jim Carlson	DOT, Commuter Services	X	
Guests			
Amber Brailer (for Robin Goudy)	Social and Scientific	X	
Rick Seibert	MC Parking Operations	X	